UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/52/L.62
2 December 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 37

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Norway, Russian Federation and United States of America: draft resolution

Middle East peace process

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/29 of 4 December 1996,

Stressing, that the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict will constitute a significant contribution to strengthening international peace and security,

Recalling the convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East at Madrid on 30 October 1991 on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and the subsequent bilateral negotiations, as well as the meetings of the multilateral working groups, and noting with satisfaction the broad international support for the peace process,

Noting the continuing positive participation of the United Nations as a full extraregional participant in the work of the multilateral working groups,

Expressing the hope that those working groups will resume their meetings in the context of a revived Middle East peace process,

Bearing in mind the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[1] signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 and the subsequent Agreement on the Gaza

[1] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Strip and the Jericho Area[2] signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 4 May 1994, their 29 August 1994 Agreement on the Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities, the Protocol of Further Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 27 August 1995, the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip[3] signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995, and the Protocol Concerning the Redeployment in Hebron, the Note for Record and Agreed Minute signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization on 15 January 1997,

Also bearing in mind the Agreement between Israel and Jordan on the Common Agenda, signed in Washington, D.C., on 14 September 1993, the Washington Declaration[4] signed by Jordan and Israel on 25 July 1994 and the Treaty of Peace between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan[5] of 26 October 1994,

Aware of the outcomes of the Middle East/North Africa summits and conferences,

Aware also of the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process and the declared commitment of the parties concerned to the process and to the agreements reached,

1. Welcomes the peace process started at Madrid, and supports the agreements reached between the parties;

2. Stresses the importance of, and need for, achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. Expresses its full support for all the achievements of the peace process thus far, which constitute important steps in achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

4. Urges all parties to fulfil their obligations in good faith and to implement the agreements already reached without delay;

5. Calls upon the parties concerned to refrain from any unilateral actions which would pre-empt the outcome of negotiations;

6. Calls for increased efforts to bring the peace process back on track and calls for the acceleration of negotiations within the Middle East peace

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[2] A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex.

[3] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[4] A/49/300-S/1994/939, annex.

[5] A/50/73-S/1995/83, enclosure.

process on its agreed basis embodied in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

7. Stresses the need to surmount the difficulties currently facing the peace process and to achieve rapid progress on all tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations within the peace process;

8. Welcomes the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, including the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, and the subsequent work of the World Bank Consultative Group, welcomes also the appointment by the Secretary-General of the "United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories", and urges Member States to expedite economic, financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during the interim period;

9. Calls upon all Member States to extend economic, financial and technical assistance to parties in the region and to render support for the peace process;

10. Considers that an active United Nations role in the Middle East peace process and in assisting in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles can make a positive contribution;

11. Encourages regional development and cooperation in areas where work has begun within the framework of the Madrid Conference.